

17408/P 76120  
C A S E S  
O F  
P A T I E N T S

ADMITTED INTO THE  
Hospital at BATH,  
UNDER THE CARE OF  
The Late Dr. OLIVER.

WITH SOME  
Additional CASES and NOTES,

B Y  
R. CHARLETON, M. D.

PHYSICIAN to the GENERAL HOSPITAL.

*To which are added,*

OBSERVATIONS ON  
STOMACH COMPLAINTS,

A N D  
The JAUNDICE.

---

BATH: Printed by R. CRUTTWELL,  
For W. TAYLOR, in Church-Street, Kingston-Buildings;  
AND SOLD BY  
R. BALDWIN, No. 47, in Pater-noster-Row, London.

[Price One Shilling and Six-pence.]

..<<<<<<<<>>>>>>..  
M DCC LXXVI.



---

---

## INTRODUCTION.

THE consideration of the miseries which numbers of poor sick creatures languished under, in different parts of this kingdom, from not being able to obtain the assistance of the medicinal waters of this place, induced many persons of humanity to think of erecting an Infirmary at Bath for the reception of such objects ; in which they might be supplied with food, physic, and advice, while they were using these waters for the relief of their several maladies.

This scheme, however, did not at first meet with the encouragement it deserved. It lay dormant a considerable time, till in the year 1738 it was revived and carried into execution by Mr. Allen, with that zeal and generosity which attended all his other various and extensive charities.

Doctor Oliver was among the foremost to promote so good a design, and in his frequent conferences, while it was in agitation, with his



friend Mr. Allen, he represented to him (as his profession naturally led to the observation) “That one circumstance of the great utility of such an hospital, would be,—its affording constant opportunities to the physicians and surgeons, who should be intrusted with the care of it, of improving themselves in the knowledge of the right use of these medicinal waters; and that by their publishing from time to time their experimental observations, the public might thereby be considerably benefited.”

This hint, which, with the Doctor’s consent, was inserted in the printed proposals for establishing the Hospital, was with many, perhaps, a motive for contributing to the undertaking.

It therefore in some degree became, from Doctor Oliver in particular, a kind of debt to the public: And it has been asked, why this promise was so long delayed, and why it was, indeed, never perfectly performed?

To the latter part of this question,—why this promise was never perfectly performed?—a sufficient answer but too readily presents itself; namely, the death of that experienced physician.



To the former part,—why it was so long delayed?—the following apology will find the readier admission with those who are the most competent judges of such an undertaking; as it is the language of true genius, which, seldom being able to please itself, too hastily concludes it can please no one else.

“The only excuse I can make, (says the Doctor) is,—that to perform it *well* is a much more difficult task than persons unacquainted with such matters can possibly imagine;—that a too tender regard, perhaps, for my own reputation, may have kept me in awe, and made me fearful of running the risk of public censure, which is more inclined to mark the deficiencies, than candidly to accept the good intentions of a writer.

“These motives would still have kept me silent, if my detestation of the least appearance of breach of public faith had not prevailed over them. However incapable, therefore, I may be of doing all I *wish*, I can no longer hold myself excusable for not doing all I *can*, to satisfy those who think they have a right to my endeavours.”

This passage is extracted from a dedication to Mr. Allen, which the Doctor intended to

prefix to his work ; which, though it never was compleated, yet some of the Cases of the Hospital Patients were published in his lifetime, and others were prepared for the press. For as ill health, and a variety of other concerns, hindered him from giving this work to the public at once, he fell on the more easy plan of publishing it by parts ; which, had he lived, would in time have amounted to a whole.

Of these cases the following sheets are chiefly composed. To which are added some few cases and notes of my own.\*

So much I have thought necessary to premise, as well from respect to the memory of a friend, as to prevent the reader from hoping to find *here* a compleat collection of all such cases which our Hospital admits.

Had Dr. Oliver lived, the public expectation would have been fully gratified.

\* The Cases and Notes added by the Editor are marked with an Asterisk.

---

---

# C A S E S

O F

Persons admitted into the Hospital  
at B A T H,

Under the Care of DR. OLIVER.

---

---

D I S E A S E S of the S K I N.

---

---

## CASE I.

SAMUEL WINGROVE, *of the parish of Phillip's Norton, in the county of Somerset, aged 17 years, has been afflicted with a Leprosy three years.*

JAMES CHURCH.

Norton, May 22, 1758.

## N O T E.

UPON examination, the young man's account of his own case was as follows :

He was bred to husbandry ; being heated, and in a profuse sweat, by hay-making, he sat  
down



down upon the ground, and drank freely of cold small beer and cyder. About an hour afterwards he grew sick and vomited ; had a constant head-ach, and remained much out of order for a week ; he then grew well enough to be able to work as usual. About a month afterwards a small red spot appeared just below his right elbow ; it spread and itched violently ; it grew moist, and the ichor which oozed from it, soon concreted into a branny scurf, as white as snow. Spots of the same kind appeared soon afterwards, in great numbers, round the elbows, knees, hands, fingers, feet, and toes, and a few in his face. His body remained quite clear from any eruption,

He said his mother was subject to the same disease on her skin if she ever drank freely of cold liquors, when she was hot.

His lips were often swollen; and when he heated himself by exercise, especially after walking and hanging down his arms, his hands would swell, and the blotches would burst, chap, and bleed ; but they were soon covered with the white crust, after rest, and the swellings decreased.

This

This youth was of a florid healthy complexion, a good skin, and sanguine constitution. In December he was interrupted in his course of drinking and bathing, by a cold, which required bleeding, and other proper means to relieve it.

This distemper is generally attended with costiveness, which the waters rather increase. To prevent which he was forced to have frequent recourse to opening medicines, during his whole course.

He was admitted July 3, 1758, and was discharged CLEAN, that is, free from eruptions, Jan. 10, 1759.



## CASE II.

ELIZABETH JORDAN, *the bearer, has been under my care at the London Hospital some time, for a Leprous Complaint, and I recommend her as a proper object to the Bath Hospital.*

JOHN ANDREE,  
Physician to the London Hospital.

London, March 28, 1758.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS girl is about sixteen years of age ; of a florid healthy complexion, and good skin. Two years ago she first perceived small red spots about her knees ; which spread gradually ; oozed a little limpid humour, which concreted into a white farinaceous crust, the scales of which were continually falling off, and as constantly succeeded by fresh ones. They afterwards appeared about the elbows, wrists, and the outside of her arms and legs ; her body was quite free from any eruptions ; the crust itched intolerably.

She attributed her disease to her having drank large draughts of cold liquors, when she had been much heated by violent exercise, or hard labour.

She had menstruated once, about sixteen months before she came hither ; but from that time she had never had the least shew till she was taken into the hospital. After her first bathing the *Menses* appeared, and she continued regular all the while she was in the house ; but they kept the periods of three weeks.

She



She was taken into the London Hospital soon after the first appearance of the eruption, where she continued ten weeks. She was then discharged *little better*. A month after she was re-admitted, and continued in the Hospital sixteen weeks, when she was discharged *much better*. But eruptions breaking out afresh, she was recommended to us.

Long before any eruption appeared, her feet used to chap and run every winter, and were so sore that she could not go, or stand.

Her upper lip often swelled, as it usually does in scrophulous cases.

She had passed the small-pox and measles, when she was very young.

She was admitted May 20, 1758, and was discharged CLEAN January the 10th following.

When she came in, she was prepared by bleeding and purging, as she was of a full habit, and sanguine complexion. Afterwards she drank the waters moderately, and bathed three times a week all the while she was in the house. The costiveness, to which she was subject, was prevented by a lenitive electuary, with sulphur.



## CASE III.

BENJAMIN ORFORD *has had eruptions in his skin, in several parts of his body, for these four or five years, occasioned as he thinks, by a surfeit. The appearance of which has all the time resembled a Leprosy, and in my opinion it is no other than Leprosy. The man has lived in the service of several farmers, and is very healthy and strong, (except this particular disorder) and has been, and is now able to do his business, being very willing to work were he free from this very bad disorder. I think him a proper object for the Bath Hospital.*

J. SHIPTON,

Apothecary at Basingstoke, Hants.

Nov. 1, 1757.

## N O T E.

ABOUT fifteen years ago he got a surfeit, (so the country people call any great and sudden alteration of the blood and juices, by drinking cold liquors when they are very hot.) From that time he always felt a weight at the pit of his stomach, attended with faintness and sickness. About six years ago he lay ill of a fever

fever three weeks, in which he was bled and blistered. A fortnight after he recovered from the fever, a red spot, as big as half-a-crown, appeared on his right arm, upon which there soon grew a white, thick, chapped crust, which sometimes bled. The next summer that disappeared; but towards the autumn, the same kind of spots appeared in his legs, and on several other parts of his body.

He was thirty years of age, of a sanguine complexion, and hardy make.

After bleeding and purging he drank the waters, and bathed three times a week, except when he was interrupted in his course by some feverish disorders, which obliged him to omit bathing, and drinking the waters, till by evacuations, and the saline draughts, with a proper regimen, he could again use them safely.

The crusts were all washed off, but the redness and itching remained. He was discharged June 14, 1758, *much better*.



#### CASE IV.

WILLIAM POPJOY, of the parish of Phillip's Norton, in the county of Somerset, twenty-four years



*years of age, has been afflicted for these six weeks with violent scorbutic eruptions, on his arms and other parts of his body, but chiefly on the arms; occasioned, as he imagines, by his drinking cold small beer, when he was hot at work.*

*He has been examined by the physicians and surgeons belonging to the Bath Hospital, who are of opinion, that he is a proper object for the said Hospital.*

EDWARD COLE.

## N O T E.

**A**BOUT two years ago he frequently indulged himself in large draughts of cold water, and small-beer, when he was heated by walking very fast; soon after he felt great sickness at his stomach, and pain in his head, which continued a fortnight. Then small pimples appeared about his wrist, with a sense of burning heat, and violent itching. Those pimples enlarged themselves into boils, which grew very painful, inflamed, and suppurated, discharging an ichorous matter, which hardened into a white scab, rugged, uneven at the edges, with a black speck in the middle. The base remained red, inflamed, and spreading every way, but unequally from the centre. In three or four days  
the

the scab dried, separated, fell off; a fresh inflammation came on; a suppuration and crust followed as before. These eruptions appeared in every part of the body by turns, but chiefly in spring and autumn.

This man was a tyler by trade; his diet was chiefly coarse bread, and cheese, and fat bacon.

In February he complained of a pain, and coldness at the pit of his stomach, and in his bowels.

It is very common to persons, who are under cure for skin diseases, to be troubled with such complaints, when the eruptions are removed by bathing. Sometimes they are seized with violent head-aches, and nervous disorders. But bleeding, a gentle purge, and then diaphoretic medicines, generally relieve them in a few days, and enable them to go on with bathing again, though it may not be proper to let them go into the water as frequently, or to stay in it as long as they used to do.

This man was discharged CURED *April 17,*  
1758.





## CASE V.

JOSEPH PORTER, of Trowbridge, wool-scribbler, aged twenty-three years, was, about three months past, seized with an Erysipelas, proceeding, as it's supposed, from an obstructed perspiration, occasioned by his being exposed to long journies in bad weather, which, by the use of medicines, became in a great measure subdued; but it has since returned at intervals, and at present seems inclined to a Leprosy; but in all other respects he is healthy.

The above Joseph Porter, (whose case as herein described by Mr. Jarvis, an apothecary) is recommended as an object of charity, and to the favour of being admitted a patient in the Hospital, by, Gentlemen,

Your most humble servants,

RAMSDEN DODSWORTH, Rector,  
JOSEPH MORTIMER, Churchwarden.

Trowbridge, Feb. 14, 1758.

## N O T E.

THIS man had eruptions on many parts of his body, which appeared in small bladders, and being broke by scratching, or being rubbed



rubbed by his shirt, discharged a little sharp watry matter. This soon concreted into a dry scab, which crumbled off, and left the part under it pretty sound.

About three years ago he had been infected by an itch, which, after two months from its first appearance, had been cured by a black ointment, probably mercurial.

He was feverish several times while he was in the house, which obliged him to leave off the water, and bathing, and to use evacuations, and the saline draughts.

This kind of eruption, which owes its origin to an itch ill cured, we find to be very obstinate. This person drank the waters, and bathed several months without much benefit, fresh eruptions breaking out as fast as the old ones were washed away.

To assist the waters, therefore, he took two drachms of a solution of one grain of *mercurius sublimat. cor.* in two ounces of brandy, every morning for a fortnight. This medicine made him a little sick, but never vomited him, or purged him. It kept up a free perspiration, and increased his quantity of urine. It must not be continued too long. I have known it to

bring on violent head-achs, and sometimes pains in the stomach, and bowels.

After he had done taking this solution, he returned to bathing, which then perfected his cure; and he was discharged Oct. 3, 1757.



### CASE VI.

THOMAS HUTCHINSON, of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen, about seven years ago, had a cutaneous eruption, that was thought to be the Itch, and was treated as such, on which it disappeared; since that time it has made its appearance every spring and fall; but by annointing and taking alterative medicines, has often disappeared, till about Christmas last; then he had a dry scab appeared on his head, and since that on his face, and other parts of his body, which does not go off by the former treatment, and is now become the true farsuraceous Leprosy. This is the true state of his case, as taken from himself.

*Witness my hand,*

FERDINANDO ANDERDON,

Surgeon in Taunton.

May 11, 1757.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

THIS man's complaint was much of the same nature with that of *Joseph Porter*.

At first, the waters and bathing had very little effect. He therefore took the foregoing solution, after which bathing took place, and he was discharged CURED, Sept. 19, 1757, having been admitted June 9, of the same year. His disorder was of seven years standing.



## CASE VII.

August 11, 1774.

*This is to certify, that MARY CLARK, belonging to the Parish of Blaydon, and now living in Axbridge, is about the age of 32, and labours under the following disorder: That ever since she can remember, she has been subject at spring and fall to have cutaneous eruptions, mostly like the itch, break out about her; that her father was always the same, but by taking (at the time of its appearance) a little gentle physic it used to go off, till about ten years since she happened to strike her leg against a stone, and bruised it, whereupon it ulcerated and*



was very painful ; she applied to a great many pretenders to surgery, but in vain ; she then was carried to Mr. Lucas, surgeon, at Wells, but in a miserable condition, with both legs and thighs very much tumified and inflamed, and when she rubbed it, (as she could not sometimes avoid through the violent itching) it would break out in small pustules, and discharge a thin glutinous matter ; she had likewise, at the same time, branny-like scales upon one arm, and both knees, and very often aching pains in her legs, thighs, and arms, especially at night when warm in bed ; she was seven weeks under his care at Wells, in which time she was (with taking medicines) made much better, but it was near twelvemonths before the disorder was seemingly conquered : Ever since she breaks out as before, at spring and fall, but not to that height, till about two months since, when it appeared all over her body like the itch ; she was blooded, took physic, and annointed, which almost carried off the eruptions about her body, but settled it in her leg, and now she was in the same manner as when she first applied to Mr. Lucas, only that her thighs are not so much inflamed as they were then, but in every other particular much the same. She was married before she applied to Mr. Lucas,

and

*and her husband is since dead, but never had the appearance of any such disorder about him ; her child is five or six years old, and never had any symptom of it till his mother's late illness, when it came out in the same sort of itching eruptions. It is observed, that the woman and her parents always had the character of virtuous people.*

WILLIAM BRICE, Surgeon.

The mother and child were both admitted, and both were discharged May 28, 1774, cured.

Patients 265 days.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS is a history of a violent scorbutic humour, which is not unworthy attention. It must be observed that the husband, who lay in the same bed with his wife was not infected ; as likewise that the child shewed no signs of having such a disorder in its constitution, till it arrived at the fifth or sixth, I should rather think, the seventh year of its age ; at which period all the fluids undergo a new fermentation, and the circulation becomes strong enough to separate such humours from the blood, and to expel them through the skin.



## CASE VIII.

Gentlemen,

HENRY ROBJOHN, a pauper, of the parish of St. Kerriase, in the city of Exon, about eight years of age, now says, that about ten or twelve months since, he unhappily met with a fall in carrying a burden, by which means he received a slight wound in each elbow, which healed without any great application ; but on its healing he perceived a white scabby cicatrix on the wound, and some pimples arising near the wound appeared crusted in the same manner ; in a small time it spread to the breadth of half-a-crown, and soon after his legs were afflicted in the same manner. He applied to Mr. Cann, an apothecary, who gave him two or three purging draughts ; but the physic having no effect, the lad desisted from taking any more, and applied to me EDWARD MILLES for my opinion : I told him I thought the best way would be to go to Bath, and I humbly conceive it to be a proper case. He further says, that till he met with the above accident, he never had the least blemish on his skin in his life ; and his mother likewise says, that neither  
 she



*she nor his father ever had any thing of the kind in their lives.*

Your most humble servants,

EDWARD MILLES, Surgeon.

HENRY FERROL, Warden.

THOMAS ELLIOTT, Collector.

Discharged Sept. 30, 1745, CURED.

A patient 137 days.

## N O T E.

**I**T may appear strange, that a slight wound in each elbow should draw a scorbutic humour to the parts so sharp, that it corroded the cuticula, and formed crusts not unlike what are seen in the mild kind of Lepra, often owing to the persons drinking cold sharp liquors when they are very hot. But it is more strange that the breaking the skin of the elbows should likewise be the occasion of such eruptions on the legs; for till that breaking of the skin by the fall, the boy never had any scorbutic symptoms that we know of. But such saline corrosive particles will float about, mixed with, and dispersed in the mass of the fluids a long time without manifesting their existence, and will be carried out  
of

of the body by urine or sweat; yet when the circulation through capillary lymphatics is stopped by a wound or contusion, they will then be heaped together in greater quantities; will by attraction form large moleculæ, which will have more powerful corrosive qualities, by which they will be able to eat away the adjacent parts, to excite intolerable itchings, and to cover the skin with foul scabs, according to their own specific natures.

It is probable, that the leg was likewise bruised by the fall, though the greater pain of the elbows, as a more tender part, made the boy not to take notice of it.



## CASE IX.

Crewhern, Somersetshire, March 25, 1745.

*Tinre's a poor girl about eighteen in this neighbourhood, that laboured under a scorbutic itch, or rather a leprosy; the greatest part of her body and limbs are covered with large scabs, which scale off in white flakes. She had some appearance of this humour when she was about ten, which has increased ever since: About two years since she was brought*

*brought to me, and then never had her menses ; I then gave her a course of mercurials about three months, and used externally mercurial ointments, which cured her, brought her menses, and she was now quite smooth ; continued so for a few months ; but her menses did not return ; the humours returned again, and she was as bad as ever. About twelve months since I cured her as before, and her menses returned ; but she did not continue well long, neither did her menses return till very lately : she is now almost as bad as ever. Her friends are very poor people, and she works for her bread : I believe your Bath will regulate her menses, and establish her cure : She's a very lusty strong maid.*

Your most humble servant,

JOHN BISHOP.

Discharged CURED May 19, 1746.

A patient 370 days.

## N O T E.

**W**HEN the menstrual evacuation does not appear at all, or is very irregular in quantity, quality, or period, and eruptions show themselves on the skin, we reasonably conclude, the deficiencies of the one to be the cause of the appearance of the other ; few cases demon-

C

strate



strate the truth of such an hypothesis so plainly as this does.



\* CASE X.

Gentlemen,

SARAH COLLINS, *aged twenty-eight, of the parish of Hammersmith, about seven years ago got a surfeit by drinking cold water when she was very hot. This surfeit shewed itself in an eruption all over her breast, which was removed by a salivation in St. George's hospital; since which operation she has never seen her menses. Upon returning to her work the humour shewed itself violently, and continues so to do; for the cure of which she has been advised by many eminent physicians and surgeons to try the Bath waters; and she having not wherewithal to subsist herself at Bath, during the time necessary for obtaining a cure, she begs the benefit of your hospital, for which she is judged a proper object, by,*

Gentlemen, &c.

WILLIAM OLIVER.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 254 days.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

WE may learn from this case, that though a salivation will clear the skin from such eruptions for a time, yet that it doth not always free the constitution from the seeds of the disease, which, when the vessels begin to fill again, and the strength of the patient to return, will bud out afresh. It is scarcely therefore worth while to put a patient to the inconvenience of so troublesome a discipline, for so uncertain and temporary an advantage; especially as mercurials internally given, by way of alterative, will often produce more lasting effects. For this patient was cured, together with drinking the waters and bathing, by taking pills night and morning, which were composed of the Pulvis Plummeri and Pil. Rufi.



## \* CASE XI.

HANNAH PEW, of Sarum, aged twenty-seven, from her youth uncommonly fat and corpulent, tho' very active and very healthy, always accustomed to hard labour and much exercise. Her monthly periods made their first appearance when she was a-



*bout seventeen years old, and continued regular in every shape till about a twelvemonth past : She then took cold, and from that time her menses have only made a faint, tho' regular appearance. From this diminution of her monthly periods, a violent impetigo broke out upon her. It first began upon her arms and legs, but has now totally overspread the whole body, except the pit of her stomach. These eruptions form themselves into dry farsuraceous scales soon after their appearance, and she can scarce walk across the room without leaving some of those exuviae behind her. This is her principal complaint; and all inferior ones are consequences thereof. She has taken a great deal of medicine from various surgeons and apothecaries, which I fancy, by her description, were of the mercurial and drastic kind, as she has been kept purging from one dose for seven or eight days together.*

WILLIAM HANCOCK.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 62 days.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS patient was admitted June 22, was bled the next day, and the day following took a gentle purge. The 25th she began drinking



drinking the waters, and the following alterative bolus was prescribed for her :

℞ Mercur. calcinct. Granum. G. Guaiac.  
terent. simul & adde Theriac. gr. s. ut. f.  
Bol. omni nocte fumend.

She took this medicine only twice or thrice, and though it moved the belly, so as to produce three or four stools every twenty-four hours, yet by the 29th of June it had greatly ulcerated the mouth, and had brought on a very copious spitting. The salivation was not encouraged by any thing given to continue it, as repeated observation had shewn the uncertainty of this measure. It was however left to take its own course, and it continued for a week. On its decline, the patient's bowels were much disordered with severe griping pains, which gave reason to apprehend a dangerous diarrhæa might succeed, as her stools were liquid and very sharp. But these symptoms were removed by the use of opiates, and proper astringents, with the Decoctum Album for common drink.

July 13. All appearances of the Ptyalism, which had produced little or no change in her disease, being over, and her bowels in a proper state,

state, she was ordered to drink the waters, and to bathe. In her morning and evening glass of the waters, she took twenty or thirty drops of the Tinctura Vitri Antimonii.

On the 21st of August she was discharged the house, perfectly cleansed of her leprosy.



### \* CASE XII.

MARY TOMKINS, (*Ætat.* 22) at five years of age had a surfeit, which every year grew worse. At twelve years of age it appeared a confirmed leprosy, and spread over all her body, head, face, hands, and feet not excepted. She has taken all kinds of medicines. About seven years since she was sent to London to St. Bartholomew's hospital, where she was nine months. They tried variety of medicines, and even salivation. She was turned out incurable. No one person chuses to take her into their house.

WILLIAM HICKS, Apothecary.

Bicester, Oct. 30, 1763.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 220 days.

NOTE.



## N O T E.

**I** Never saw so bad a leprous case. The girl's skin was almost universally covered with large, thick, hard, dry scabs, of a dark brown colour ; except that on her face, these brown scabs were specked with white shining silver scales, which gave her countenance a very shocking appearance. The clefts between the scabs were wide and deep, so that her skin resembled the bark of a tree. And her disease, indeed, appeared to me to be a species of that kind of leprosy, which, from the effects it produces in the skin, has obtained the name of the *Elephantiasis*. She was of a plethoric constitution : Except her leprosy, she was in a state of perfect health.

She was admitted into the hospital the 31st of December 1763. As she was of a full habit of body, evacuations by bleeding, and purging were requisite to prepare her for the waters. When these were undergone, she began to drink the waters, and to bathe twice a week.

The skin having been well washed, and the leprous scabs rendered somewhat soft and supple by these bathings, I ordered, on the 20th of January,



nuary, that she should be annointed all over her body, with an ointment made of the Ungt. e Pice, and neat's foot oil, night and morning; and that during the use of it she should desist from bathing.

She applied this ointment from the 20th of January to the 10th of February, when she was purged, and the next day ordered into the bath.

Her skin by this means was rendered much cleaner from leprosy, than it had been for many years; even, as she told me, than by the salivation, which had been continued for six weeks.

On the 13th of February she was ordered to go on with bathing thrice a week; to drink a pint of the water daily, and to take an alterative medicine, which consisted of a solution of the Mercurius corrosivus sublimatus and the Tinctura Vitri Antimonii, night and morning, in a decoction of *sarfa parilla*.

She was continued in this plan for the remainder of this month, and for the whole of the next, during which period her disease sometimes abated, sometimes increased.

In the beginning of April she was put again on the use of the above-mentioned ointment, and was ordered to desist from the waters and the alterative medicines.

She used the ointment night and morning for three weeks; was then purged, and sent into the bath. Her skin now, after being well washed, appeared in great measure freed of the leprosy. She then returned to her course of the waters and alterative medicines; by the use of which the remaining scabs by degrees dropped off; the dark coloured marks they left on the skin gradually disappeared; and she left the hospital perfectly cleansed Aug. 8, 1764. Since which time we have heard nothing of her.



\* CASE XIII.

THOMAS RICKET, (*Ætat.* 16) *a poor boy, has for the greatest part of his life, been afflicted with a briny humour inclining to a leprosy.*

RICHARD CORK,

Surgeon, at Slimbridge.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 57 days.

D

NOTE.

## N O T E.

**A**T his admission, his body was covered in most places with a brown scab, that ouzed a very corrosive ichor.

He could not tell how long he had had this complaint. The disease appeared to be a scorbutic itch, and probably had existed from his infancy.

He was received into the hospital June 12, 1764.

After being properly purged and several times bathed, he made use of the ointment mentioned in the preceding case, from the 30th of July to the 17th of August: On which day he was purged, and the next was ordered into the bath.

After three or four bathings the scabs dropt off. But towards the end of the month the tumour began to shew itself again. He was therefore ordered to have recourse to the ointment, which was used for a week; when he was again purged and bathed. He now appeared free from eruption. To prevent a relapse, he took  
five



five grains of Calomel at bed-time for three nights, and on the fourth morning a purge. On the 26th he left the hospital, perfectly free from every the least spot or mark on his skin.

---

THESE cases, 'tis presumed, will be thought sufficient proofs of the efficacy of Bath waters in Diseases of the Skin : But should further evidence be required, the registers of the hospital will afford it. By them we find, that from May 1752, to May 1764, a period of 13 years, two hundred and forty-one lepers have been received into the house : Of this number one hundred and twenty-two were perfectly cleansed ; eighty-five were much benefited ; twelve received no benefit ; four died ; eleven were improper to be continued ; and seven were discharged for irregularity.

During the same period the hospital has admitted fifty patients under various sorts of scorbutic eruptions. Of these, twenty-six were cured ; eighteen were much relieved ; one died ; and five were improper, from hectic symptoms, to make use of the waters.



## R H E U M A T I S M.

---

### CASE I.

JAMES COLE, of the parish of Upton St. Leonards, in the county of Gloucester, labourer, about thirty-six years of age, has been grievously afflicted for these five weeks last past with rheumatic pains and tumours, together with great weakness of both legs and thighs, which (though in all other respects he is in perfect good health) renders him entirely incapable of labour, and obliges him to be dependent on his parish for his own and his family's support. He therefore prays to be admitted into the General Hospital at Bath, hoping there to obtain that relief, which has in vain been attempted by other means.

The truth of the above case is attested by

JOHN READY, Surgeon.

Gloucester, June 12, 1757.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS man, about twelve weeks before his admission into the hospital, which was in the beginning of July 1757, sat down on a moist place, being then heated by working. The next morning he felt pains about the Os Coccygis, and upwards through the back bone to the second vertebra of the loins. Thence it descended along the muscles of the left thigh and leg, and soon after through the muscles of the same parts of the right side. The knees swelled with a sensation of a dead numbness. He was always easier when he was warm in bed.

Three days after his seizure he was bled, but not relieved. He was purged five times, and used an ointment to his knees. From these means he found little or no advantage.

After a gentle purge, he began to bathe, and to drink the waters, a pint and a half a day; he soon found his pains relieved, and by continuing in this course without any medicine, he grew quite well, and was discharged CURED in the beginning of November.





## CASE II.

MARY SCRIGGINS has, for six or seven years past, been at intervals afflicted with violent pains in her limbs, which have been generally deemed rheumatic, but within these twelvemonths she has been rendered mostly incapable of her service, and now wholly so. Last autumn she went to Bath, and was under the care of \*\*\* Henshaw, apothecary, for some weeks, and received great advantage by the use of the waters, under his prudent directions; she says, he called her disorder a scorbutic rheumatism. However, in this time she spent the little money she had saved in service, so far as to disable her from going to Bath again at her own expence; and as she finds her disorder coming on apace, she is very desirous, if it may be thought well of, to be admitted into the hospital. She is about forty years of age, of a pretty good constitution naturally, and has few or no complaints to make, except these great pains and weakness in her limbs, especially her arms and hands.

If she shall be deemed a proper patient to be admitted, please to send a line directed to Sarah Prankard,

ard, opposite the Drawbridge, on St. Austin's Back, Bristol.

## N O T E.

THIS person was about forty years of age :  
 She had been regular as to her menses, during the whole course of her illness, and continued so while she was in the hospital.

Her first complaint was a pain in her hip joint, from whence it was removed by the use of opodeldoc, with which the part was frequently embrocated. The pains then flew about her, and attacked several other joints. At that time the strange infatuation about *Glastonbury* water overspread the neighbourhood, and she went thither among the crouds of deluded people. She staid there seven weeks, drank half a pint of the water a day, and bathed eleven times; when she had finished this course, her pains were greatly encreased, and her joints so much swollen, that her limbs had almost lost all motion: Last autumn she came to Bath, drank these waters, bathed, and found much benefit, as her case declares. She came again, and was admitted into the hospital July 3d, 1758.

When

When I first saw her she complained of great pains in all her joints, which were stiff, and could not be moved without much difficulty, especially the vertebræ of the neck. Her ankles were much swollen, and pained her so much if she endeavoured to stand, that she immediately fell down, if not supported.

She was of a good habit of body ; the viscera were sound, and performed their duty regularly.

Upon her admission, we took nine ounces of blood from her arm ; the next day purged her gently ; then she began to drink three half pints of the Bath water a day, and bathed twice a week. By this course her pains gradually abated ; the gummy swellings at her joints were dispersed ; she could turn her head and neck without any uneasiness, and her ankles grew so strong that she could walk almost as well as ever.

In this state she was discharged from the hospital, CURED, December 27, 1758.



### CASE III.

Gentlemen,

*This is to certify, that the bearer hereof, GEORGE POPE, of the parish of Pottern, in the county of Wilts,*



*Wilts, is, in my opinion, an object of the Bath hospital, having been troubled with rheumatic pains for some years past, for which reason he was discharged from his Majesty's service.*

*As witness,*

JOHN CLARE.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS man is about forty-five years of age, well-made, muscular, and of a sanguine constitution. He served as a soldier in General Bland's regiment all the last war in Flanders.

He supposes that his disease arose from lying on the cold, wet ground. About ten years ago he first felt a very sharp pain in his left knee, without any swelling of the part. Three months afterwards the right knee was affected with the same sort of pain, which did not relieve the left knee at all. In this condition he returned to England, a year and half after his first attack of pain. Soon after he began to feel flying pains all over his body; his joints, vertebræ, and sternum, upon motion, or pressure might be heard, or felt to crackle, as is usual in Scorbutic habits. His pains were always greatest in hot weather. He was sent to Guy's hospital a year

E

and

and half ago. He staid there twenty weeks, and was discharged incurable. He then returned to his regiment, of which he was a corporal. July 16, he was discharged as unfit for service, having lost many motions of his right arm, and being not able to walk without great pain and difficulty.

Nov. 3, 1758, he was admitted into our hospital.

I examined him Feb. 5, and found his pains were much eased ; the joint of his right shoulder crackled under pressure, but no other part ; he had quite recovered the use of his arm, he could walk stoutly, and without pain.

He was discharged *fit* for his majesty's service.

*Note,* In cases where the joints crackle, from dryness, our surgeons advise, that the parts should be well embrocated with neat's-foot oil, especially after bathing, when the pores being cleansed and opened, the oil will enter with more readiness, and penetrate deeper than it will do at any other time.





## CASE IV.

WILLIAM STEPHENS, *about four years ago, after a hard day's labour at his trade (being a blacksmith) was seized with a violent pain in his neck and shoulders, which extended also to all his limbs, and confined him wholly to his bed for eight months. Two months after, he was sent to this place, where, by bathing and drinking the waters ten weeks, he recovered his health and strength so as to work at his trade for near two years after; and then, by taking great cold, was seized in his loins, with weakness in his knees, so as to hinder him from walking across his chamber; then he came hither again, and in seventeen weeks recovered his strength a second time; so that he has not been able to get his bread by his labour till within these six months past. And now, the third time of his coming, he has been here ten weeks, and in a fair way of recovery, and begs to be admitted into the General Hospital, having been hitherto at Billet's Hospital, where he finds sustenance fall short: He is provided with a certificate from Portsmouth, and a deposit of the three pounds.*

S. BUSH.

Discharged March 27, 1754, much better.

A patient 188 days.



N O T E.

I Think this is a remarkable instance of the power of Bath Waters, in removing the pains which were so often brought on by taking cold upon having been violently heated, even after so many relapses.



CASE V.

THOMAS ODY, of Wroughton, the bearer hereof, has for twenty years past been afflicted with rheumatic pains in his limbs, occasioned at first by an itch ill treated, and is thereby rendered incapable of labour; and having twice tried the Bath, whereby he received benefit; but by extraordinary expences not being able to continue its use for a sufficient time, is recommended as a real object of charity.

Your most humble servants,

GEO. MODD, surgeon, &c.

Discharged May 14, 1746, better.

A patient 69 days.

N O T E.

THIS case ought to make us careful by what means we suffer an itch to be cured.

It

It will likewise put the physician upon enquiring, when he meets with anomalous erratic pains, whether his patient ever had the itch, and how it was removed from the skin.



### CASE VI.

WALTER FLEA, *he has been afflicted with a swelling in both ancles for these three years past, proceeding from cold ; but the swelling has been now gone off for about half a year, and left such a great contraction of the Tarsus and Metatarsis, that he can't walk but with the greatest difficulty : He is likewise troubled with rheumatic complaints. His age is about forty.*

### N O T E.

THIS man was an officer of the excise. By standing in a cold, damp cellar, to watch a soap-maker, he contracted a rheumatic habit, being afflicted with sharp flying pains in all his limbs. His legs swelled very much, and his ankles, and feet were œdematous. The pains were severe by fits, which sometimes lasted for a fortnight, attended with a fever ; then the

pains ceased, leaving the limbs very weak, especially the ankles. He is just now getting out of one of those fits, which has been pretty severe. He is now free from all feverish symptoms.

After proper evacuations, he began to drink and bathe in the beginning of June 1757. He was very costive, and was obliged to take half a drachm of the Elect. Cariocostinum every other night. In order to unload his legs, which still swelled, especially towards night, he now and then took a jalap purge.

June the 10th. His pains are much easier, and his legs and ankles do not swell so much.

July 14. He has no complaint remaining but the weakness of his ankles, which grow stronger by pumping. He was then discharged, *very well recovered.*

This man's disorder was relieved much the sooner by the warmth of the season, which kept up a constant free perspiration between the bathings, to which cold weather is very unfavourable. When this great evacuation was checked by the autumnal winds, his pains returned,



turned, and, upon his own petition, he was re-admitted Nov. 18, 1758.

*May it please the worthy gentlemen, doctors, and surgeons, to the General Hospital in Bath, the humble petition of Walter Flea, humbly sheweth,*

*That whereas Walter Flea, of Calne, in the county of Wilts, was sometime since a patient in the above named house, and was turned out CURED, but having since a relapse of my disorder, humbly implore the worthy gentlemen for a re-admittance, which will infinitely oblige,*

*Your afflicted humble servant,*

WALTER FLEA.

His symptoms were much the same as before; but he did not receive benefit as fast as he did in the warmer months. The waters seemed now to want some assistance; and as he was still costive, he was ordered an opening electuary with Gum Guaiacum. By degrees he got rid of all his complaints.



## CASE VII.

Oxford, Feb. 7, 1745.

JOHN BEASLY, of *St. Michael's, Oxford*, has for two years past been afflicted with painful swellings in his legs. After taking medicines here to no purpose, he was recommended to the Infirmary at *Westminster*, and was discharged from thence without being relieved. The physicians and surgeons of that hospital advised his going to *Bath*, as being the most likely means of serving him.

JOHN HUME, Apothecary.

SAM. MATTHEWS, ditto.

Admitted May 1, 1746.

Discharged July 7, 1746, CURED.

## N O T E.

THIS is much to the credit of the Bath hospital, where the patient received a cure after he had tried all means at Oxford, and in the Westminster infirmary to no purpose.

Probably

Probably nothing but a gradual solution of the viscid state of his juices by warm bathing could have effected his cure.

---

\* THE efficacy of Bath Waters in Rheumatisms is so generally known, that to produce more cases in proof of it would be unnecessary: But it is *not* unnecessary to observe, that their power is chiefly confined to that species of Rheumatism, which is *unattended* with inflammation, or in which the patient's pains are *not increased by the warmth of his bed*.



## CACHEXY and SPINA VENTOSA.

---

C A C H E X Y.

CASE I.

Bradford, March 23, 174 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

JOHN HUCHINS *has for near six months laboured under an ill state of health; he was first seized with an ague, which, for want of due care and proper*



*proper helps, was succeeded by a cough, swelled legs, &c. which reduced him to a very weak state; and he being deprived of the proper means of procuring assistance, begs admission into the Bath Hospital.*

WILLIAM HARRIS, Apothecary.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 93 days.

## N O T E.

THIS case may teach us, that in some scorbutic cachexies the waters may be drank with safety and advantage, though the legs swell, the abdomen is puffed up, and a teasing cough comes on.



## CASE II.

*The case of OLIVE HANCOCK, aged 37, appears to me to be an universal Cachexy of the whole blood and humours, from a sudden return of a scorbutic humour, occasioned by being made wet, when very hot, in hard walking, and from that time has*  
*been*

*been subject to various complaints, as a load in the stomach, a pain in the bowels, and sometimes in the limbs; the bowels at present are very much obstructed, and have been for these twelve months past; she has several ulcers in her legs, but has not had them more than two months; she has taken purging, altering, and cordial medicines, but they have taken little effect; and not being able to support herself in this her calamity, does humbly ask charitable assistance.*

JOHN PITT,

Surgeon and Apothecary at Cricklade, Wilts,  
near Ashton Keins, the parish of the above  
mentioned Olive Hancock.

## N O T E.

**T**HIS woman enjoyed pretty good health till about ten years ago. Then, after walking till she was very hot, she was caught in a hard shower of rain, on Michaelmas day, it being very cold and windy. Upon her return home she went to bed, rose very well the next morning, and continued so for a fortnight; a pimple then appeared near the ankle as big as a pea, inflamed; and was very painful; soon after the legs and arms were overspread with numberless



berless pustules, which were not so high above the skin, or so inflamed, or painful, as the first pimple; but she felt great pains in her legs and arms, at the bone. These eruptions were covered with a white scurf. They appeared and disappeared frequently. When she was freest from them, her bowels was affected with windy cholic pains, which grew easy again upon a fresh appearance of the spots. At the end of five years, from her first taking cold, the eruption quite disappeared, probably from frequent purges, and other medicines which she used. She then began to feel a pain at the pit of her stomach, which by degrees affected her whole breast, shoulders, and neck, but was so violent in her back bone, that the vertebræ, between the shoulders, began to start, first one, then a second, and then a third. From the compression of the spinal marrow, she began to feel a numbness at the pit of her stomach, round her sides, down her thighs, legs, feet, and toes; she soon after lost the power of motion, and the sense of feeling, in her lower limbs; her urine flowed involuntarily, the sphincter of the bladder becoming paralytic; whilst she was costive from the defect of the peristaltic motion of the intestines, and the want of the power of expelling

ling



ling the fæces. Her bowels had a sensation of numbness, yet they were in violent pain. She had often cold shiverings, burning heats, and clammy sweats. When she came into the hospital, we found her much emaciated, very weak, a quick pulse, and brown tongue, very dry in the middle. This state rendered her a very improper object; however, as these symptoms might be brought on, or much aggravated by the great fatigue of her journey, in a jolting cart, we let her rest a few days, rather with hopes of her becoming capable of returning home, than of doing her any service. By a cooling temperate regimen, and rest, she became less feverish, and gathered a little strength. Then, at her most earnest request, as the last thing she had any hopes from, after having assured her that she would receive more harm than good from bathing, we permitted her to be carried to the bath, in which she was to stay but a few minutes. After a few cautious trials, she was convinced that she grew weaker, and more feverish. She was forbid to bath any more. We endeavoured, by cooling and nourishing her with a slender diet, to render her capable of bearing the journey, and then discharged

charged her, as an improper object for our hospital, Jan. 31, 1759.



### CASE III.

ELIZABETH COLEMAN, of Keovil, Wilts, about twenty years of age, by great tremblings and catchings in her lower limbs, from September last, gradually lost the use of them. She does not apprehend it proceeded from any cold taken at that time, but rather from frequent surprizes and ill usage. She has her menses very regular, and seems to be naturally of a very good constitution. She now receives relief from the parish, who have promised to lay down the caution money, and procure every thing proper for her admission into the hospital, of which I think her a proper object.

Your's, &c.

JOHN MORRIS.

July 12, 1747, dead.

A patient 427 days.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

THIS poor girl was bound out an apprentice by the parish. Besides the palsy of her lower limbs, which the case sent to the hospital mentions, she had all the symptoms of cachexy brought on by bad diet, unkind usage, and anxiety of mind. Our best endeavours could afford her, though long kept in the house, no benefit ; which induces me to insert this case, to shew the dreadful consequences which are likely to follow, from the barbarous treatment such poor creatures often meet with from their inhuman masters and mistresses ; to which their no less cruel parishes oblige them to submit for many years, if they prove strong enough to bear it. If the miserable being dies under the tyranny, the master is hanged, and the parish rejoice that they have got rid of two nuisances at once.



## CASE IV.

May 19, 1746.

RICHARD CROCHER, *of the parish of Houlton, in the county of Somerset, got the itch about five months ago, for which he was struck with a*  
*mercurial*



*mercurial ointment, from which time he has been afflicted with a violent pain in his stomach, a constant sickness after eating, a dizziness in his head, with vertigos; his sight almost quite obscured by clouds flying before his eyes generally of a green colour; he felt a sense of creeping insects throughout all his limbs, with frequent throbbings and subsultusses; the bottom of his feet burn, prick, and shoot, so that he walks with difficulty, yet they sweat plentifully. He is about thirty-three years of age.*

W. OLIVER.

Discharged Dec. 3, 1746, much better.

A patient 171 days.



## SPINA VENTOSA.

### CASE V.

Nov. 23, 1743.

JOHN STADHOLME, *aged twenty-seven years, was seized with a white swelling in the year 1740, which we believe came by cold and hard labour at his trade in winter time, and under which he has miserably laboured ever since; he is now rendered incapable of getting his bread by trade or otherwise,*

*wise, and has nothing else thereby to support him :  
We humbly hope the governors and gentlemen of  
the committee will be pleased to admit the said  
John Stadholme, as a real object.*

THOMAS NICHOLSON, Curate.

Discharged April 28, 1774, *incurable.*

A patient 165 days.

## N O T E.

A True Spina Ventosa seldom, or never, receives benefit, but often harm, from the use of Bath waters. I suppose we were in hopes, that as the case was drawn by the curate of the parish, it might be mistaken ; as other swellings of the joints often pass for spinas, when they are not really so. When the poor man came, we were not willing to send him back without a trial of what could be done for him ; but the event was as we had reason to fear it would be. Had this case been drawn up by a skilful physician, or surgeon, the sick man would probably never have had the trouble to come from his own home. In this description no symptoms are mentioned, which is a great defect, by which we could not form a right judgment of the case.

F



When

☞ When we discharge a patient *incurable*, we always mean no more than incurable by the Bath waters, under the patient's present circumstances.



## S C I A T I C A.

---

### CASE I.

SAMUEL FRANCES, *of the parish of Batcombe, in this county, labourer, aged between 50 and 60, has been for three months past afflicted with a Sciatica, which has rendered him unable to work. I examined him in the parish where he lives, and think him a proper object for this charity. I am,*

Your humble servant,

Bath, Oct. 7, 1758.

JOHN DONNE.

### N O T E.

**T**HIS man was 62 years of age, of a healthy complexion, and good habit of body.

About twelve months ago, as he was walking on the ice, his feet slipped, and his back-  
side



side came to the ground. He felt great pain from his fall, which seemed to him to lye deep towards the bone; the external parts were not discoloured, as they generally are from bruises. He was very lame, and got to his house, which was a quarter of a mile distant, with great difficulty. The pain by degrees descended to his ankle, without attacking the knee in its way. His hip grew easier, as the pain in his ankle increased; a month after the knee grew very painful, but his ankle was not relieved. No swelling appeared on either of the parts affected.

When he was admitted into the hospital, Nov. 24, 1758, the pains were very sharp in the knee, leg, and ankle; he could not walk without a support, and then with much pain and difficulty. He found immediate relief from bathing; his pains decreased every time he went into the water, and the strength of the limb proportionably increased. When he was discharged, Jan. 31, 1759, he declared that he was quite free from pain, that he had been so above a fortnight, and could then walk as well as ever he could in his life.



## H I P C A S E.

## CASE II.

JOHN HUGHES, of the parish of Rexham, in the county of Dunbrigh, was about June last seized with a violent pain in his right hip, attended with a strong symptomatic fever, and an atrophy of the whole limb, great disproportion of the joints, from whence there is reason to fear a luxation, if the obstruction of the joint gland is not removed; which the warm bath, with drinking, seems to bid fairest to do: Joined to his disorder his poverty renders him a proper object for the General Hospital.

October 20, 1743.

J. P. ch.

Discharged Nov. 24, 1743, CURED.

A patient 34 days.

## N O T E.

THIS remarkable cure was performed in 34 days. He was bled as soon as he was admitted; then took a purge of pil-coch min. with calomel, drank the waters sparingly, bathed twice a week, then three times, and took an opening

opening electuary, composed of two ounces of lenitive electuary, one ounce of æthiops mineral, half an ounce of lac sulphuris, and a sufficient quantity of solutive syrup of roses. This was his whole process under my care. Such opening electuaries we are frequently obliged to give during the use of the waters, which prove binding to most people. Though persons of very weak bowels will sometimes be strongly purged by them, especially if they drink them without having duly prepared the primæ viæ.

\* *Note*, I have often observed, those purgings which are brought on at first drinking the water, prove in the end, if properly managed, very beneficial to the patient.



### CASE III.

WILLIAM HOPKINS, a poor sheerman, of 21 years of age, and of the parish of Midsummer-Norton, in the county of Somerset; his pain he says lies mostly in his right hip, but that it moves sometimes from thence to his knee, quite down to his ankle; he finds great weakness in those joints, but perceives no swelling; he informed me likewise



*that in cold weather his pain increases, and that he imagines his disorder was occasioned by a chill which he took about a year ago: This account of his case I had from his own mouth, and hope it is such as may entitle him to admittance into the hospital, and the benefits he may there receive.*

GEORGE FIDDES,  
Curate of Midsummer-Norton.

Discharged Sept. 10, 1745, *better.*

A patient 120 days.

## N O T E.

THIS patient was under the care of Dr. Oliver, who remarks, that his disorder was a beginning hip case; and that such complaints, when recent, and in young subjects, are commonly relieved in our hospital.

---

\* WE frequently have patients sent to us whose complaint, in the description given of their cases, is said to be the Sciatica, or Hipgout. But as the symptoms of their disease are not confined to the idea which this term conveys, I shall here enumerate them.

If

If you enquire of these patients where their pain is situated? some will point to the groin; some to the great trochanter of the thigh bone; and others to the junction of the os innominatum with the os sacrum. Temporary pains are also often spoke of in the knee, the shin, and ankle of the diseased limb. Pain in the *acetabulum* of the os innominatum is frequently *never* mentioned; and many of these patients can bear to have the head of the thigh bone moved round in its socket without the least uneasiness. The diseased limb is sometimes shorter than the sound one; but it is much more frequently considerably longer. If the buttocks be examined, that of the diseased side will be found lower than that of the well side. I have seen several instances, where the obtuse process of the os innominatum has been an inch and a half lower than its natural situation.

This disorder is sometimes brought on by colds, which have been caught by sitting on damp ground. Sometimes it is the consequence of external injuries, as falls, leaping down from high places, &c. And very often no assignable reason can be given for it.

It happens indifferently to persons of all ages and constitutions. I could never discover, after  
the

the most careful enquiry, that those of scrophulous habits were more liable to its attacks than others, who had ever been free from glandular obstructions.

Its approaches are generally made by slow and almost imperceptible degrees. A kind of weariness, an inaptitude to motion, is at first perceived in the limb; which in children has frequently been taken for some trick they had got in walking, till the subsequent pains have at length given but too convincing a proof to the contrary.

The miserable patient often long languishes under this cruel disease. His pain grows more continual and more violent. Inflammation arises, matter is formed, a hectic succeeds, and he dies tabid. Or if the abscess breaks, or is opened, the flux of matter is usually more than his strength can support, and he sinks under the discharge.

Dr. Oliver justly remarks, that when the case is recent, and the patient young, our waters frequently effect a cure. To which I must add, that when the disease has been of long standing, they seldom do much service; and if the parts are much inflamed, but particularly if  
matter



matter is formed, the use of them is highly injurious.

Our usual method of treating such cases is as follows : We do every thing we can to prevent inflammation, or if it exists to remove it. We depend more on the external than on the internal use of the waters. And such patients are usually restrained from drinking them till the disease begins to give way ; and even then they are prescribed in small quantity, and are sometimes softened with milk, or cooled with spirit of nitre.

We frequently purge such patients, and with advantage. Some of them require, and are benefited by mercurial physic. Bleeding is not omitted ; cupping on the part is exceedingly serviceable ; and emetics are often very useful. All these several evacuations are repeated during a course of bathing, as circumstances demand.

When the patient bears bathing well, that is, if his pain is not increased by it, and more particularly if it abates his pain, we reasonably entertain hopes of his recovery. But bathing, though it should considerably lessen the symptoms of the disease, yet it is not always able to perfect its cure. In this case, we have recourse  
to

to the pump, and the success answers our wishes. This application, however, must be made with great caution; and should immediately be desisted from if the pain is increased by it. Under the circumstances of the patient's being relieved, though not cured, by bathing, and yet unable to bear the pump, I have known him receive the greatest advantages from emetics, and the application of lime cataplasms, sometimes of blisters, to the diseased parts.

When bathing makes such patients feverish, and increases their pains, no benefit is to be expected from it; particularly if, after carefully repeated trials, *these effects* are constantly observed. And if they are sent to us in the last stages of the disease, when matter is formed in the part (which too frequently happens) we are obliged to return them to their homes as soon as possible.

Upon examining our registers it appears, that from May 1761 to May 1773, there have been admitted into the hospital 296 hip cases. Of these, 192 have been perfectly cured or greatly benefited; 2 received no benefit; 2 died; 1 was discharged for irregularity; and 99 were improper to be continued.



## STOMACH CASES.

---

### CASE I.

ANN ASHWORTH, of the parish of St. Brides, London, is about twenty-five years of age, is a maid servant at present, but from her illness is incapable of doing her business ; her disorder is a violent pain at her stomach, with which she has been afflicted for the best part of five years, being seldom free from it above three or four weeks together ; she has taken almost all kind of medicines usually administered in such cases, but has found only a temporary relief from them. We hope the Bath waters will be of service to her, and esteeming her a proper object of charity, recommend her to your hospital.

DANIEL COX, M. D.

Discharged Sept. 31, 1745, CURED.

A patient 98 days.





## CASE II.

JANE WALKER, *spinster, about 28 years of age, of a thin, cold habit, has been for a long time subject to a violent pain in her stomach, attended with frequent irritations to vomit, so as not to keep any thing in her stomach; sometimes free of that complaint; but then violent gripings in her bowels without costiveness; the cause I presume to proceed from a weakness of the digestive faculty: All the means that have been used for her recovery have proved unsuccessful, and I humbly conceive that the Bath waters would be of service to her.*

JOSEPH YOUNG.

Discharged Oct. 11, 1744, CURED.

A patient 149 days.



## CASE III.

JANE NOYCE, *housemaid to Lord Conway, has been long afflicted with a disorder in her stomach and bowels, attended with pain and indigestion, without any scurvy, and may, in my opinion, be very likely to receive benefit by the Bath waters.*

E. WILMOT.

Discharged Sept. 22, 1743, CURED.

A patient 131 days.

NOTE.

## N O T E.

**T**HOUGH diseases of the stomach are oftener relieved by the Bath waters than any other, yet we have fewer cases of that kind sent to the hospital, than of those who labour under the infirmities of their limbs. Perhaps the poor are less liable to disorders of the stomach than the rich, from their different manner of living. Another reason may be, that such disorders do not render them as incapable of their usual work, as the loss of their limbs does, and consequently they do not become burthensome to their parishes, to prevent which is one great motive to their being at the expence of sending them to the hospital.



## \* CASE IV.

WM. COLLINS, of Butleigh, has for some time laboured under a dangerous disorder, which Bath waters to me seem likely to remove. I apprehend there is some obstruction in the passage from the stomach to the duodenum. What suggests this conjecture is, that as soon as he has taken the smallest quantity of any solid food, it gives him most excruciating pains in his stomach till it comes up again.



*gain. And lately, if he eats any thing more substantial than broth, his stomach immediately swells like a blown bladder, and his breath is almost gone.*

S. HOOD.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 72 days.

## N O T E.

THIS patient was 30 years of age. About three years before he came to Bath he caught a severe cold, and from that time was more or less troubled with indigestion, flatulency, and pain in his stomach. By degrees the pain of his stomach became more constant, and more violent. To this was added an excessive degree of costiveness. No solid food staid in his stomach. He kept down broth better than any other sort of nourishment, but even that he frequently flung up. About a quarter of a year before his admittance into our hospital, he began to discharge a clear insipid rheum from his mouth, which ran off to the quantity of four or five pints every twenty-four hours.

He was much weakened and emaciated, and seemed falling into a hectic.

He



He was prepared for the waters by a warm stomach purge. He began to drink them in small quantities. They sat easy on his stomach, and in three days his vomitings were removed. The quantity of the waters were gradually increased, till he drank three half pints of them in the day. He grew regular as to stools, and the discharge of the rheum from his mouth gradually decreased. He left the hospital perfectly free from all his complaints.



\* CASE V.

SOLOMON DE MATTOS, of *St. Botolph's, London*, aged 54, was recommended to Bath for a stomach complaint. His case was similar to the preceding one, and was of near three years standing. His digestion was greatly impaired. He had continual reachings, in which he frequently discharged large quantities of a thin transparent humour. At times he had accessions of a hectic fever.

N O T E.

THIS latter symptom made it dubious, whether he should be allowed to drink the waters: But on the supposition that his fever might

might originate from inanition, he was allowed to try them ; and in seventy days they completed his cure.

Bath waters are usually forbid when feverish symptoms appear, but there can be no general rules without their exceptions. If the feverish symptoms are owing to an inflammatory state of the fluids, or from matter, drinking these waters would certainly destroy the patient : But when nervous debility occasions fever, they may, if taken with due caution, produce very happy effects ; of which these two cases are sufficient proofs.



#### \* CASE VI.

ELIZABETH VICKERS, *of the parish of Shenly in Hertfordshire, about 46 years of age, has for several months complained of great pain in and about the stomach, which pains were often accompanied with eructations and vomitings.*

*It seems that prior to these complaints, she was subject to recurrent pains in her feet, which occasioned a suspicion that the symptoms above-mentioned were of the gouty kind. Agreeably to this hypothesis, the case was treated with warm purges, cardiacs, and stomachic medicines : But after a long pursuit*  
of



*of this method, no gouty paroxysm appearing, and indeed little or no benefit arising to the patient, excepting those short temporary reliefs which all warm spirituous compositions occasioned in common, it was judged proper to direct saponaceous and aloetic medicines, which were afterwards followed by a course of aromatic bitters, and chalybeates.*

*This latter pursuit seemed to avail the patient considerably ; but nevertheless was far from effecting a cure ; for the pain, sickness, &c. every now and then returned, although not so severe as formerly either as to degree or duration.*

\*\*\*\* COTTON, M. D.

Discharged CURED.

A patient 95 days.

## N O T E.

**A**FTER a proper preparation, this woman was put upon a course of the waters. She continued drinking them for near a month, without their producing any sensible alteration in her complaints. About this time she complained of great sickness, attended with a sensation of weight and load at her stomach. An emetic was given her, and she brought up more than a pint of thick black bile. After this discharge,



charge, she fenfibly found the waters do her good. Her appetite mended, her digeftion became perfect, and her evacuations regular.

She was difcharged relieved of all her complaints, without having had any gouty paroxyfm to affift in their removal.

It is not unufual for perfons to refort here, impreffed with the idea that their complaints are produced from gout. Some who are afflicted with wandering pains in their limbs, want of appetite, indigeftion, and lownefs of fpirits, will call their complaints a flying gout. Others who are fubject to fevere pains in the ftomach, attended with violent reachings, &c. conceive their difeafe to be the gout in the ftomach : When the complaints of the former proceed from a bilious acrimony in the habit ; and the complaints of the latter from gall ftones.

---

DR. OLIVER obferves, That hot mineral waters may not improperly be faid to confift of foul and body. The foul which warms, enlivens, and keeps all their component parts in a due motion and mixture, is fire, that moft active, as far as we know, of all material beings. As foon as the waters are expofed to  
the

the open air, this ætherial substance, cloathed in the most volatile\* and \*sulphureous \*particles of the composition, breaks through its watry prison, and wings its way towards its kindred element. When this spiritus rector has taken its flight, the remaining mass becomes cold and lifeless ; its parts separate, and form moleculæ, which by degrees become too weighty to be suspended in the vehicle, and appear precipitated to the bottom of the vessel in which they are contained. The spiritus rector seems to act by re-animating weak, cold, flabby, animal fibres, and reviving cold, viscid, vapid animal fluids, by uniting with them, and rendering them again warm, spirituous, and active. When the solid contents of the waters are no longer under the influence of the spiritus rector, they still retain, during some weeks at least, qualities not unuseful to the animal œconomy, though far inferior to those virtues which the waters possess when drank, as quick as possible, from the spring head. The solid contents, by gently irritating the muscular and nervous fibrillæ, restore, and strengthen the peristaltic motion of the bowels, and promote glandular secretions ; operations of the greatest



consequence, either to the preservation or restoration of health.\*

A remarkable history of the powers of Bath waters, in each of these different states, will be more satisfactory to the reader than any hypothetical reasonings about them can be.

Mrs. Griffith was a lady well known; and by her great good-nature, and continual flow of chearful spirits, much beloved and carested by all who knew her. About thirty-five years since, great anxiety of mind threw her into a diarrhea; followed by an entire loss of appetite, perpetual nausea, and vomitings up of every thing she attempted to get into her stomach. The great Dr. Friend was her physician; but the disease was too obstinate even for his skill to conquer. Tired with taking medicines, and finding herself grow worse, she, by the advice of some friends, asked the Doctor whether the Bath waters might not be serviceable in her case.

*\* If the theory contained in the above note should not be allowed, yet the practical observations it contains, and which the two following cases confirm, may be a sufficient apology for its insertion.*



case. The Doctor, tired as much as his patient by so long and fruitless an attendance, readily acquiesced in her making the trial ; but without any very favourable prognostic of the success. She no sooner began to drink the waters than she felt her stomach and bowels mended by them ; her symptoms were all relieved ; the looseness grew very moderate ; she took down food, and digested it ; and after drinking the waters about five or six weeks, she returned to London in such health, strength, and spirits, that her friends received her with joy and surprise. The benefit she found from this first Bath journey, lasted about a year and a half ; when, from what cause I don't recollect, her bowels began again to be out of order, and all her former complaints returned. Whither should she fly ? but to the waters which had done her so much good, when in the same circumstances. I was then in London, and came down with her in her own coach to Bath. I was then an eye-witness of her miserable circumstances ; the diarrhea was violent ; the vomiting as constant as she ever attempted to swallow any thing, either food or physic ; except a spoonful now and then of brandy burnt

on a lump of sugar, which staid in her stomach, and was almost her only support. As soon as we reached Bath, she made all possible haste to the pump; and I saw her drink off a middling glass of the water, with an eagerness and joy which we may form the justest idea of from the figures in Pouffin's charming picture of Moses striking the rock. The miracle was almost as great. She drank another glass, and declared that she felt herself quite well. From that hour she took down food, retained, and digested it; the looseness became moderate, and her spirits rose a degree or two above temperate. Having drank the waters the usual time, she returned to London in good health, and remained so for many months; but by the next year she felt some admonitions from her stomach and bowels, to put her in mind that she ought to have recourse to her great remedy, before she was driven to it by a total return of her complaints. She did so, and with the same success. But her constitution was too delicate, and her frame too much shattered by illness, to be capable of being restored to strong, or lasting health; yet by the help of Bath waters she lived a most comfortable sprightly valetudinarian all the rest  
of



of her days. Many years she divided between this place and London, when she often enjoyed pretty long intervals of ease ; but as soon as her stomach or bowels put her in mind of her former sufferings, she flew to the Bath waters, which never failed immediately to charm away her disorders. As she grew older and more infirm, she found herself become less and less capable of bearing any long absence from her great restorative, and that her London journies were more and more fatiguing, as she was less able to bear their inconveniencies. She therefore made this place her fixed habitation for the future. Here she spent her days in social pleasures among her numerous friends, never omitting her visits to the pump, from which she received her daily support ; and nobody ever was more sensible of, or more thankful for the inestimable blessing. During some years before her death she took very little food ; and if she did not keep her stomach alive by the waters, she could take none at all, but began to nauseate the sight and smell of victuals, till she could get a glass of the water, as hot as possible, which alone could enable her to eat a mouthful. Thus, by continually pouring

ing



ing a little oil into the lamp of life, though it burnt dimly, it did not quite go out till the fourth day of February, 1762, in the seventy-sixth year of her age.

Many years ago Dr. Moore, a practising physician in Dublin, brought his wife hither, and put her under the joint care of Dr. Cheyne and myself. She was between thirty and forty years of age, and extremely emaciated by the following illness. She had generally no evacuation by stool for nine days; the eighth or ninth day approaching, violent pains of the bowels, particularly of the lower gut, came on, which threw her into hysteric convulsive fits; they followed one another till by frequent spasmodic endeavours, which admitted of very little assistance from art, she was delivered of several hard balls of fæces. From the moment of her delivery she grew easy; soon recovered the fatigue; was free from hysteries; was in good spirits, and continued so till towards the next ninth day, when the same tragedy was acted over again. The faculty in Dublin had given her all the aid medicines could afford, but without the desired effect. When she had drank the Bath water some weeks, she had her periodical evacuation with

with tolerable ease ; without hysterics or violent gripings. By degrees she grew to have stools once in two or three days, and for some time before she left this place, she had regular evacuations that way ; recovered her flesh, and a good state of health. When she returned to Ireland she took with her a quantity of Bath water, which she warmed and drank every day. As long as that lasted she continued regular ; but when that was out, she found herself gradually relapsing into her former state of costiveness. She tried all the water shops in Dublin ; but found no Bath water which would answer her purpose, probably from having been kept too long : She then sent us an account of her distress, and desired that she might have some fresh-bottled water sent over by the first opportunity. Some time after, the Doctor informed us with great thankfulness, that the waters we sent had fully answered the end, and that his wife had, by their use, recovered regularity, ease, and spirits, and therefore desired that we would continue to send fresh supplies of the water.



---

*The following OBSERVATIONS on STOMACH COMPLAINTS, were found among Dr. Oliver's Papers; and from the many useful Remarks which they contain, have been deemed proper for Publication.*

THE food, having been prepared by mastication, and the mixture of the saliva, is conveyed into the stomach, there to be concocted by a gentle heat, and mixed with such juices as shall promote its further resolution. While all the parts subservient to this operation are sound, and healthy, the stomach receives this pulp with pleasure, and digests it with ease. But no organ of the body is more subject to a greater variety of disorders, than the stomach; and no medicine is found to be so efficacious in removing many of them as our Bath waters.

When the fibres of the stomach are weak and relaxed, so that its coats grow soft and flabby, having lost the power of exerting their nervous and muscular force on their own glands, and on the pulpy food which is transmitted  
from



from the mouth ; the secretions of those juices which should there be mixed with the mass to be digested, are slow and languid ; these humours grow thick, tough, cold, and phlegmatic ; they stick to the plucky coat of the stomach, fill up all its interstices, and choak the passages, which open into its cavity, and that send both fluids and steams into it, of great service in the business of digestion.

Such a diseased state is often brought on by many accidents which affect the mind with grief and melancholy ; than which nothing more surely destroys the natural heat, strength, and firmness of the body. Women are more subject to this disease than men, from the natural looseness of their fibres, and their sedentary manner of living. Men, who give up exercise and labour, for which their bodies were originally framed, and apply themselves with too much eagerness and diligence to studies of the severer kind, especially in a leaning posture, seldom escape falling into this state, which I shall now describe.

When the stomach is in this condition, instead of receiving the food with desire, it suffers

fers

fers a disgust from the very action of swallowing it.

Soon after a few mouthfuls are swallowed, a nausea ensues, the appetite ceases, and the meal is at end ; except from the fear of being starved, and the earnest persuasions of friends, they force down a few morsels more.

When the food reaches the bottom of the stomach, it is soon surrounded and entangled with a quantity of cold, clammy, slimy mucus, which prevents its further solution ; and which smearing it all over preserves it in a crude inactive lump, whose weight becomes sensible, and is complained of an hour or two after eating, and remains so a longer or shorter time, according to the degree of the distemper. When this indigested lump lies long at the bottom of the stomach, it grows sour, distends the cavity with vapours of a like nature, which go off in disagreeable and sometimes painful belchings.

Persons whose stomachs are thus diseased, have pale complexions, bloated countenances, hollow eyes, with a dark circle round them. They are low spirited, often sigh, are inactive, gape and yawn frequently, have pale lips, and  
cold



cold whitish tongues. Their pulse are low and slow, their urine crude, and like whey.

If the Bath waters are poured into a stomach thus coated over with a thick slimy mucus, they will pass thro' it without having any other effect but that of adding to the load, distending it by rarefying the vapours which are confined in it, and producing flatulency and nausea ; for they have not power to dissolve this tenacious matter. In order therefore to render them serviceable, it is necessary that the patient should take some ponderous and saponorous medicines, amongst which I think crude mercury the best. These will penetrate the viscid humours, attenuate and dissolve them, and make them easily separable from the coats of the stomach. When it is judged that these medicines have done their office, a vomit composed of ʒiss of the vinum ipecacuanhæ, with one or two grains of the emetic tartar, may be given, and the day after a warm purge to carry off what may have been sent down into the intestines by the operation of the vomit. The stomach being thus cleansed, the waters will come into contact with its coats, which they will wash, warm, and strengthen, and by degrees will free the villi from the load  
which



which oppressed them ; and by thus invigorating the nervous fibres, will restore them to their proper tone and activity. The opened glands will begin to secrete rightly, and to pour forth their several liquors fit to be mixed with the food for its further solution. Then appetite will return, the food will be received with pleasure by the stomach, will be rightly digested, and retained no longer than is necessary for the purposes of nutrition.

During the course of the waters, the following medicines will be usefully interposed. Elixir P. P. alkan. may be given in a small glass of the water about twelve or one o'clock. It will help farther to cleanse the coats from any of the viscid humours which may still be entangled amongst their villi, and will render the waters more detergent. After a time some warm bitter infusion, in which bark is an ingredient, will still further help to restore the tone of the relaxed fibres, and the Elixir Vitrioli may be added, if necessary, to increase its efficacy.

The diet should be dry, and warm, consisting of roasted meats rather than boiled, and spices may be allowed in the sauce. All garden stuff,

stuff, except the hotter fallads, must be forborn, and these should be dressed with mustard, little vinegar, and less oil. Butter fouls the stomach, and therefore the temptation of hot buttered rolls, the usual breakfast here, should be resisted. Fish in general turn into a putrilaginous liquor, which becomes glue by heat, and therefore are too near a-kin to the peccant humour we have been endeavouring to remove.

Two or three glasses of good strong claret, or of old genuine madeira, will strengthen the fibres, and raise the spirits, and therefore coincide with the intentions of cure. Bath water, from the King's Pump, fetched two hours before dinner, and mixed with a little of the foregoing wines, will be the best common drink.

Rubbing the stomach with the flesh brush, once or twice a day, will greatly strengthen its fibres.

Plaisters of the warm oils and gums, will send their most spirituous effluvia to the part affected; and by thus comforting the cold flabby relaxed fibres, they may do great service.

The quantity of the Bath waters to be drank in this case, must be determined by observing  
how



how they fit on the patient's stomach, beginning with small quantities, and rising gradually from half a pint to a quart in twenty-four hours. The King's is the proper water in this case.

How long the waters are to be continued can only be determined by observations made on the patients during the course of their drinking; but this should be a general rule, that as soon as they become less agreeable to the drinker, they should be discontinued.

Another disorder of the stomach is, where the natural juices poured into it by its glands, for the uses of digestion, are depraved, growing hot, sharp, and acrid, to a degree capable of turning every thing that comes into the stomach into their own nature, which is sometimes exalted into an Aqua Fortis. Persons in this condition feel a continual gnawing pain at the pit of the stomach, and that teasing uneasiness upon its upper orifice, called the heartburn, which generally comes on as soon as these juices, by fermenting with the new food, send up their vapours, which are sharp enough not only to give this uneasiness about the upper orifice of the stomach, but forcing their way upward, they



go off in such four eruptions, as almost skin the gullet as they pass, and set the teeth on edge as they make their way through the mouth. These juices grown thus acrid not only give an appetite by their constantly stimulating the coats of the stomach, but the person who is thus diseased has a continual craving, which is a good deal owing to the association of his ideas. For having always found that fresh food does, for some time, dulcify these acrid juices, and consequently take off the uneasy sensations which arise from their sharp corroding properties, when he feels himself hurt he desires to return immediately and almost mechanically to the use of what gave him relief. But the comfort of this kind is short, and is generally bought at a dear rate. The acrid leaven which the new food meets with, soon conquers all its soft, mild, balsamic properties, and obliges it to turn its arms against the stomach, which it came to rescue. The pulpy mass swells, and distends the whole region; flatulencies are produced, pricking, tearing, gnawing pains, soon follow, and such incredible quantities of sharp disagreeable eruptions succeed, as makes the poor creature unhappy both for his own sake, and for those also who are near enough to him to be

offended. All fermented liquors join with these juices, run into their embraces, and become of their party the moment they enter the stomach, and by exalting their sharpness, heighten all the uneasy sensations which that quality produces. Indeed, without a proper regimen of diet, this unhappy state of the stomach, to which hard-drinkers, and persons whose gout is become irregular, are most subject, can never be rectified. Their meat therefore should consist of such things as are of a soft, insipid, mucilaginous nature, such as rice, millet puddings, young boiled flesh, no pickles or spices; cocoa, falop, or sago, may be allowed for breakfasts; either of them, or gruels for supper. Soops and broths turn sour immediately on such stomachs. All fermented vinous liquors must be absolutely avoided. Toast and water, with a little rum or old brandy, will be the best liquor for common drink, and lime water will be of great use.

As a preparation for drinking our waters with advantage, persons thus diseased should endeavour to free the stomach from this leaven, by a gentle puke. Ipecacuanha, emetic tartar, and chamomile tea, were the proper instruments  
with



with which the sluggish, thick, tough, mucous phlegm should be removed. In *this* case all the humours are thin, sharp, volatile, and the fibres rather inclining to a state of inflammation. The puke should therefore be promoted by large quantities of soft mucilaginous liquors, such as gruels, barley water, or mallows tea. These will sheath the acrid humours they find in the stomach, and bring them off in an innocent state; and if any of these liquors remain, they will cool, soften, and sheath the sore fibres, and guard them for a time against the injuries of those sharp humours. After the vomit, the patient may begin to drink a pint of the Cross-Bath water every morning before breakfast, half a pint an hour before dinner, and as much about six o'clock in the afternoon.

I here allow a greater draught of the waters, that they may dilute the acrid humours, wash and scour the glands, and not only pass quick out of the stomach, but likewise promote an evacuation by stool. The quantity may still be increased, if this does not answer the desirable end, and should be assisted by laxative medicines, if three pints or two quarts in a day do not produce one or two motions extraordinary. In some cases it is prudent to begin to



drink the waters in very small glaffes; but we are very prone to run into extremes, and because our forefathers drank feveral quarts, which was found to be an error on the one fide, to avoid this error we fall into the contrary miftake on the other, and often order them almost in fpoonfuls. But the particular circumftances of the patient will always guide the prudent and experienced phyfician in his practice.

I have already fpoke of the diet proper in thefe cafes. The medicines which will affift the waters, are fuch as will fheath, abforb, and correct acrid humours, as, the electar. diacafs. cum manna, teftaceous powders, falts neutralized and mixed with powdered rhubarb. Perhaps a few grains of mercurius alkalizatus may be added with good effect.

Bilious vomitings I omit to mention here, becaufe, though often reckoned a difeafe of the ftomach, they belong to the diforders of the duodenum.

The ftomach is liable to be offended with a variety of painful diforders, and great numbers of people labouring under them, have recourfe to the ufe of thefe waters for relief.

In

In these cases the first enquiry should be, whether the pain proceeds from an inflammation of the part affected, or not. If inflammation be the cause, it will be discovered by the fulness and hardness of the pulse, the high flame colour of the water, the dryness and fur of the tongue. If there is no inflammatory state, the pulse will be low, quick, and soft. The urine will be crude, pale, wheyish, or limpid. The tongue will be soft, moist, and of its natural colour ; or perhaps a little white in the morning. In the first state the waters are not to be ventured upon till the inflammation is conquered by bleeding, cooling purges, and diluting liquors, all repeated as the stubbornness of the symptoms shall require. When all the signs of inflammation disappear, the pain too will be removed ; but a soreness and weakness of the parts affected will still remain, which may be greatly helped by the cautious use of Bath waters. The Cross-Bath water is the safest to begin with, if not to be persisted in during the whole course. To these waters may be added a little milk, which often makes even the waters of the hotter baths bearable by persons of hot temperaments. Spirit of nitre may be dropped into the noon glass,



and a cooling purge should be given once a week.

In the other state, attended with all the symptoms contrary to the first, the waters of the hotter springs may be safely ventured upon, after proper evacuations. How to prepare, and how to assist the waters, requires a strict scrutiny into the cause, and as distinct a knowledge as we can possibly obtain, not only in this, but in all cases which fall under our consideration.

—*Hic labor, hoc opus!*

When the stomach is full of sharp corroding humours, such acrid steams will arise, and affect the upper orifice, as will not only create heart-burns, but very acute pains in that most nervous and sensible part, which will be communicated to the diaphragm, and felt in the back, almost up to the shoulders. Here the evident cause points out an easy method of immediate relief, by unloading the stomach of its offending humours. To prevent these humours from gathering again is the difficulty, and so great a one it is, that we find all medicines often prove ineffectual, even under the most skilful direction, till by the use of Bath waters a right digestion is restored.

The

The stomach is naturally covered with so thick a mucus, that very corrosive juices may lie a long time in it without affecting its nerves. Thus when things sour on the stomach no pain is felt till a fermentation coming on sharp steams arise, which vellicate the upper orifice, and after a discharge of sharp eructations, throw its fibres into such convulsive motions, as are necessary to free the stomach from its contents, which have so great a degree of acridity that they encoriate the gullet and fauces as they pass through them, though the stomach itself was insensible of their virulent qualities.

This happens to many people who eat well and feel no uneasiness during the time of digestion, till at a certain hour they are periodically waked out of their first sleep by the whole contents of the stomach being become sharper than vinegar, twitching, fretting, and burning the upper orifice of the stomach, which can only be relieved by immediate vomiting.

Many I have known, who, from an undue fermentation, have not been so much troubled with the sourness of the contents of the stomach, as with the surprizing flatulencies which  
begin



begin to distend the stomach about the same hour every night; the patient wakes hurried, distressed, and affrighted by immediate suffocation: After some struggles, the rarefied vapour finds a passage, which the convulsive stricture of the throat at first denied it; then it rushes forth like a tempest, and with as much noise, yet not in a continued stream, but by successive belchings, in which the alternate motion of the diaphragm is the chief instrument.

This mucus may be destroyed by too frequent vomitings, natural or artificial; or by the use of mineral medicines ignorantly prepared, or improperly administered. It may not be of the proper consistence to be this kind defensative, from the fault of the glands which secrete it, whose fountains may likewise be dried up, by the too frequent use of spirituous liquors, or the insidious preparations of caustic bitters, which gain admittance under the friendly name of stomachics, though in reality slow but sure poisons.

When this mucus grows deficient in quantity, or its quality grows thin and sharp, the tender villi, which it should defend, soon languish and shrivel up, so that the nervous coat  
of

of the stomach becomes bare, and subjected to the irritations and erosions of whatever is let down into it. This membrane is so extremely sensible, that scarce any food is so soft and insipid as not to affect it; but all things endowed with a saline acrimony, a sharp acidity, or a fiery heat, throw it into most violent agonies, which are so intolerable, that the sick person rather chuses almost to starve, than to risk the sufferings he has felt by taking down food. In this most miserable state many come to these waters for relief, though they are under as great horrors at the thoughts of drinking them, as if they had been bit by a mad dog.

This membrane, so affected, must always be either actually inflamed, or in great danger of becoming so, while it continues bare, and in so defenceless a condition. Bleeding therefore is absolutely necessary, and that as largely as the other circumstances of the patient will permit. The natural mucus is to be imitated as nearly as we can: Linctus composed of conserv. cynisbat. mucilagin sem. cydonior, sperm. ceti, pulv. e tragacanth composit. will be useful, and simple jellies of calve's feet, and sheep's trotters, without lemon or wine, should be recommended. To  
all



all these a few drops of the tinctur. thebaic. or a little of the Syrup. e. Mæcon. may be added with great benefit, as well as unspeakable comfort to the sick ; who has been quite worn down by pain, restlessness, fasting, and that anxiety which can't be described. By these applications the nerves will gradually be guarded from uneasy irritations, nature will gain some respite, and have time to apply what powers she has left towards repairing her own work, and healing the breach. The pains being now a little alleviated, the sick will begin to take down such food as has the least stimulating property. Smooth milk porridge is one of the most soft mucilaginous liquors we know of. Salop has the same properties. Simple jelly dissolved in warm Bristol water, and the whites of eggs beat up with a small quantity of sugar and rose water, are all in this case a proper diet. When the stomach can bear this food without any uneasiness, the regimen may by degrees be enlarged to the whole milk diet, and bath-water whey may become a part of it. From that we may gradually rise to the use of the Cross-bath water, putting one spoonful of milk into each glass. Under this regimen, nature will have the greatest opportunity of restoring the stomach

mach

mach to the best state of health it is capable of regaining: And she will be greatly helped in her endeavours by the comfort and strength all the fibres of the stomach will feel from the Bath waters, as soon as this tender part of the nervous coat is again in a cool quiet state, and guarded by fresh mucus from feeling any uneasy sensations from the activity of its mineral particles.

Very various are the painful affections of the stomach, which arise merely from the diseases of distant parts, without any fault of its own. The head and the stomach sympathize with each other by the intercourse of nerves. The duodenum often proves a bad neighbour, and empties its filthy contents into the cavity of its superior. The lower intestines affect it by the continuation of the common membranes, and often drive worms, which are naturally the invaders of those lower regions, to take shelter in the stomach, till finding themselves uneasy in that situation, we have often seen them creep out at the mouth. But no part communicates more distresses to the stomach than the uterus. Sicknefs, and inclinations to vomit, are often the first indications of pregnancy. Suppressions  
of



of the menstrual flux, or its running off in too great quantities, will either of them give pains in the epigastric region ; and scarce any woman labours under the fluor albus, to any great degree, who does not complain of a weight, and pain at the pit of her stomach.

The kidneys likewise scarce feel any disease, without the stomach's being affected by it. But particularly what are properly called nephritic complaints, owing to some extraneous matter in the pulvis or uretus, never fail to produce nausea, and frequently most enormous vomitings, which laudanum only will appease, but nothing can stop, till the irritations of the kidneys can be taken off, by the discharge of the gravel, sand, or whatever lay in the pulvis or ureters, or by its being again replaced in a quiet situation, from whence some accidental motion had moved it.

In this case nothing facilitates the descent of any little stone or gravel through the ureters, equal to a semicupium of Bath water. Its relaxing properties are truly anodyne, and in numberless cases of acute pains it is not to be described with how much extasy persons put into the tub or bath, feel an immediate transition

sition from torture, to the heavenly state of ease and tranquility.

What we call a nephritic cholic, from its affecting the same nerves which the diseases of the kidneys generally do, counterfeits them likewise, in disturbing the stomach by sickness and vomitings.

From these hints it will appear, of what great consequence it is, that the original disease should be rightly distinguished from complaints which are only symptomatical, before a cure is attempted. Stomach diseases come to us in the lump, and our waters are kindly supposed to be an effectual remedy in all of them: But alas! too many such patients leave us without benefit, as they proceed without the knowledge of their disorder, and consequently of the proper means of removing it. They torture their stomachs with vomits, purges, and nauseous bitters to no purpose; while the cause lies lurking in some distant corner of the microcosm, and returns with them again to their own homes undiscovered.

---

THERE are other disorders of this organ, where Bath waters are useful, which the Doctor has left unnoticed.

For



For instance, the Gout in the Stomach. But of this he has spoken elsewhere.\*

Another disorder this part is liable to is a very severe one, namely, a *Cramp*. I have heard patients subject to this seizure express their sensations of it by the idea of their stomach's being squeezed by the gripe of a strong hand. The complaint seems to be a spasm of the coats of the stomach occasioned by the irritation of some acrimonious humour lodged among its muscular and nervous fibres.

Opiates afford a temporary relief. A perpetual blister on the pit of the stomach frequently does much good. But the disease is more often removed by drinking these waters and bathing. For by bathing the offending acrimony is carried off in perspiration, while the internal use of the waters gives strength to the part, and renders it less liable to future attacks.

\* *In his Essay on the Use and Abuse of Warm Bathing in Gouty Cases.*



## Observations on the JAUNDICE.

\* **H**AVING before hinted the good effects of these waters in complaints of the liver,\* I shall take this opportunity to be a little more particular, and describe those kinds of jaundice in which they are most serviceable.

This disease has its rise from such different causes, and is attended with such different circumstances, that it frequently demands a different method of cure.

Our waters have acquired too general a reputation, almost to their being called a specific in jaundices of *all kinds*; by which means many fatal mistakes have been committed by those who think that all diseases which have the same name have the same nature, and that the same medicines will cure all distempers which have the same denomination. It will therefore  
be

\* See page                      of the Enquiry.



be of use if we could rightly distinguish the different species of this distemper in which the Bath waters do great service, from those in which they do great mischief. This would require a particular treatise; but the following short observations may, in some measure, contribute towards the attainment of so necessary a distinction.

Whenever the gall ducts are obstructed by cholic pains which arise from spasm, and the bile is by that means thrown back into the blood, it immediately tinges the lymph, and changes the whites of the eyes and all the surface of the skin into a bright lemon colour. After proper evacuations, the Bath waters are almost a certain remedy; abating the pains by their softening, relaxing, and anodyne quality, and diluting, correcting, and washing away the acrid particles from the intestines, which brought on the spasms that stopped the biliary ducts and created the disease.

When indigestion brings on a viscidty of the humours, and a flabbiness of the solids, the glands are loaded, and perform their office very imperfectly. The secretion of the bile grows sluggish.

fluggish. The bile itself becomes so viscid that it stops up the canal through which it should pass into the bowels, and a jaundice gradually appears. But here the colour of the skin is not of so bright a yellow as in the former species.

When this is the case, vomits and attenuating medicines are required to prepare for the waters, and to assist them in their operation.

After proper preparation, no medicine will prove more effectual than these waters in mending the digestion, the defect of which was the original cause of the disease. They will dilute and inspirit all the juices, wash, scower, and cleanse the glands, especially if aided by saponaceous medicines, and consequently restore the secretions of the liver to their true state. The bile will become of its natural consistence, will pass through its proper channels, the yellowness of the skin will vanish, the urine will change from the colour of porter to a pale amber, the stools from a whitish clay will become brown, and the jaundice will be cured.

Another species of this distemper arises from stones, or concretions of bilious matter, lodged



in the gall bladder, which, though they sometimes lie there in a quiescent state undiscovered for many years without producing a jaundice, yet they often push into the cystic duct, and by compressing the ductus communis oblige the bile to regurgitate, and find a passage into the blood instead of the duodenum. When one or more such stones begin to move, and to force their way through the cystic pipe, they occasion exquisite pain.\* This pain begins commonly at the pit of the stomach, and passes transversely through the body towards the back. At first it is in a mild degree, but it increases at length to such an excess as to be intolerable; when of a sudden it totally vanishes, and the patient finds himself perfectly at ease. A continual reaching also accompanies this pain.

These symptoms are pretty sure diagnostics of a gall-stone's being in the cystic duct; and the immediate cessation of the pain and vomiting are signs either that it has forced its passage into the duodenum, or that being too large to pass, till the canal becomes more lax and capable

\* This pain has often been mistaken for gout in the stomach, and of course the patient has been very wrongly treated.

pable of sufficient distention, it has retired back again into the gall bladder.

The stones in the gall bladder are so far removed out of the sphere of the general circulation, that there are little hopes of ever finding any solvent which may arrive at them, while its powers subsist. Encouraging them therefore to pass into the gut, whenever they attempt to do so, seems to be all that we can do.

Nothing is found to promote the passage of these stones into the duodenum more effectually than bathing in our baths; which rendering the parts soft and yielding, taking off all spasmodic contractions, and at the same time by the weight of the water's pressing on the epigastric region, the stone is pushed forward, while the resistance of the canal through which it is to pass is diminished.

While the patient is in the bath, the right side of the epigastrium should be gently rubbed with the hand to facilitate the passage of the stone. I have known its passage procured by a gentle emetic, given about an hour after the patient has rose from the bath; but the use of such a remedy demands the highest caution.



Dry cupping on the epigastrium has likewise been found of great service.

Where the pains are very acute, bleeding and opiates will be necessary.

It has been already observed, that as soon as the stone has passed into the gut the pain ceases. A jaundice, from the stone's having remained some time in the duct before it could get through, now comes on ; but, if the passage is left clear, it vanishes in a few days.

Gentle cathartics are now proper to carry off the stone through the intestines, as otherwise it might lodge in their folds, and occasion cholicky complaints: But by these means it will probably be found in a few days among the fæces.

After the stone or stones, (for I have seen them in great numbers) are voided, the Bath waters drank pretty freely will be of great service, in cleansing the first passages, restoring appetite, correcting digestion, depurating the blood and juices from bilious taint, and, which is of the most consequence, *restoring that due mixture and union among the several component parts*

*parts of the bile, from want of which the disease itself originates.*

The last species of this distemper I have to mention is commonly known by the name of the black jaundice. It is usually the consequence of the yellow jaundice long subsisting. The bile by degrees unites with the most compact, earthy, inactive parts of the blood, and gives it a viscosity, a ropeness, that renders it incapable of circulating through the finer vessels. It therefore stagnates in these fine vessels, and forms obstructions, often hard swellings, in the liver, spleen, and mesenteric glands. These obstructed humours by degrees acquire an acrimonious leaven, which infects and poisons all the juices of the body. Hence arise lassitude, debility, loss of appetite, want of digestion, dejection of spirits, melancholy, and all that train of various misery which accompany hypochondriacism; and which finally end in the death of the miserable being, whom they have long before tormented.

This faint idea of this distemper plainly indicates all possible means by which this deleterious matter can be corrected, attenuated, and expelled the constitution. And how far our  
Bath



Bath waters may help to answer these indications, their commonly known properties will answer for them; provided their use be not deferred to the last stage of the disease, when a putrid fever arises, which, instead of abating, they would increase, and consequently accelerate the destruction of the patient.

From this enumeration of the particular kinds of Jaundice, and other liver diseases, in which Bath waters are useful, may easily be collected *those* in which they are detrimental. And 'tis to be hoped this short detail may contribute to prevent their indiscriminate application in every complaint to which this organ is subject. For in a schirrus of the liver they do no good: in an inflammatory state of the liver, or of its ducts, they do much harm; and in hepetic fluxes, where the bile is secreted in too large a quantity, they add to the complaint.